

A Day In The Life

From MOTHER JONES
MAGAZINE

Americans are obsessed with statistics: TV sports announcers crunch more numbers during the course of a football game than a mathematician, and pollsters tell us who's voting how, long before the elections are held. Like the ancient seers who

read the entrails of animals to fathom the unknown, compilers of statistics are thought to have mystical access to the inner secrets of our national life.

It was with great wonder and anticipation, then, that we picked up a new book called *In One Day: The Things Americans Do in a Day*, by Tom Parker (Houghter Mifflin). Because stored within

this little paperback are scores of statistics about life in the United States — what we eat, what ills we suffer from, how we amuse ourselves, how we die. Forget *The New York Times* — this one volume contains all the information that you need to know. For instance, did you know that in one day:

1. Dogs bite 20 mail carriers.
2. Americans buy 50,000 new television sets.
3. We throw out 200,000 tons of edible food.
4. The average American eats one teaspoon of artificial colors, flavors and preservatives.
5. Sixty people desert the military and almost 200 go AWOL.
6. Thirteen or 14 human bodies turn up that can't be identified.
7. Almost 6,000 teenagers have sexual intercourse for the first time.
8. Twenty trains accidentally jump their tracks.
9. Americans spend \$125,000 on tours and merchandise associated with Elvis Presley.
10. Americans buy more than 80,000 pieces of clothing and accessories with little alligators embroidered on them.
11. Some 2,200 Americans discover they have cancer.
12. Two American public officials are indicted on charges of corruption.
13. More than 8,000 Americans become pregnant by mistake.
14. Americans are X-rayed 650,000 times—of which, according to government sources, only 250,000 are necessary.
15. Two hundred Americans have their breasts enlarged, 90 have their breasts reduced, and a total of 35 have their breasts lifted or aimed in some other direction.

Labor critic speaks on student jobs

MONCTON—Liberal Critic Frank McKenna says he is extremely concerned that high unemployment areas such as New Brunswick will be frozen out of their fair share of student summer employment funds if the federal government doesn't show flexibility in administering its program announced Wednesday.

Mr. McKenna said that the program could either be a success or a complete disaster, depending on whether the federal government will be flexible.

The Liberal Labour critic said it is laudable that the private sector will be asked to accept its share of the load, and the idea that students will be given an opportunity to find career-related jobs has merit.

However, Mr. McKenna noted that allocation for New Brunswick under the program is down sharply from that offered last summer under the previous Liberal government. The total for New Brunswick last summer was \$7.97 million for all Summer Canada programs. This summer, the total for the three main programs, SEED, WOW and Student Entrepreneurs, which account for the bulk of the funds, is \$4.86

million.

Explaining his call for flexibility in administration, Mr. McKenna said that areas with a weak private sector will have great difficulty in gaining any benefit from the wage subsidy program, unless administrators can divert a greater proportion of funds to the municipal and non-profit parts of the program.

"I am particularly concerned in New Brunswick if the program is rigidly administered, it will hurt all those areas most in need of jobs.

"I fear that the program has been designed with Toronto and Montreal in mind, rather than areas such as New Brunswick which have the greatest need."

Mr. McKenna said he will, however, reserve final judgment until after he sees the government explain how the program will be administered. "If the employment development officers in the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission are given the authority to adjust the program to help areas with very high rates of unemployment, then New Brunswick students will be given a fairer deal."

Political Perspectives by R. Hutchins

For the last few weeks a debate has been held on each Friday afternoon in the Blue Lounge of the SUB. Although attendance has been minimal, the debates have served a purpose to the University Community. I think that forums such as these are integral to promoting dialogue amongst students, which is the key to understanding better the issues that effect us all.

This Friday afternoon at 3:00 we will be showing a movie in the Blue Lounge of the Student Union Building. The movie is entitled *Requiem or Recovery*. It is a documentary that deals specifically with the problem of acid rain and the affects this abuse has had on our environment. The movie is a hard hitting presentation, that goes right to the heart of this important issue. In the United States of America this movie was banned by the Reagan Administration as political propaganda but internationally it has been highly acclaimed and awarded 7 film awards for documentary excellence. I strongly encourage the members of our University Community to come and see this movie feature. There is no cost other than your time and attention. Immediately afterward there will be a discussion led by Justin Manasc, a Forestry Student at UNB and Spokesman for Conservation New Brunswick.

This issue is one of central importance to the future of our lakes, rivers and forests, as well as humans and other living species. Too often in our modern world do we sit by idle, sensitive to issues like acid rain but unwilling to take any constructive action to combat the problem. It is our hope that a movie such as this will disturb individuals enough that they will become more actively involved in the pursuit of a qualitative change of direction, one that seeks to reverse our traditional abuse and misuse of the environment.

Also, last week we had a meeting of concerned students to form a committee here on campus to organize a symposium on "Third World Issues". The meeting was attended by seven people but can be considered a huge success. Due to mid-terms and other pressures it was decided to postpone the next meeting until after the Spring Break. We are looking tentatively to the last week of March as the date for this symposium. Anyone wishing more information on this committee can get a hold of me through the *Brunswickan* office or at 454-0610. Ian Campbell has supplied a news story also in this week's *Brun* which gives a brief outline of our intentions.

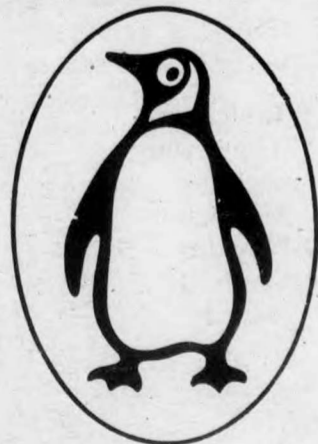
It is very important that students get involved in this type of event. It supplies you with an educational experience that far outweighs the world of textbook monotony. These Friday afternoon debates are open discussions designed to "highlight" issues in our world. Anyone who has a topic they would like to bring to the attention of our University Community is welcome to set the agenda for one or more of these debates.

Someone asked me last Friday; "What is the use of these debates if no-one comes?" I thought about it for a second and commented; "As with anything, it takes time to bring attention to the public, and I believe in time more and more individuals will come forth and dialogue about the world they live in."

So, although very few people have come and contributed, I think the future of these forums looks good, and I applaud those concerned citizens who care enough to get involved. Remember this Friday afternoon is a chance to learn about and show a real concern for your environment.

P.S. Better active today than Radio-active tomorrow!

(dedicated to WORD. By the way WORD is a group on campus active in educating us on the evils of Nuclear War. I applaud them for their efforts and once again encourage students to get involved.)



Special Penguin Display

February 19
to
March 1

Hours: Mon. 9 am to 8 pm
Tues. to Fri. 9 am to 4 pm

Penguin Representative Available February 19th, 1-4 pm

UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE

Everyone Welcome

Mastercharge Visa

O.C.S.A. and M.S.S.
present
Chinese New Year Banquet

Date: 16 Feb. 1985
Place: SUB Cafeteria
Dress Code: Formal
price at door-\$7.00
Price: Member \$5.50
Non-member \$7.50
Children \$2.50
Time: 7 pm